

Quote

THE WEEKLY DIGEST

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WITHIN THE WEEK

Observers are asking whether the suicidal Nazi defense of Aachen portends similar fanatical resistance all the way to Berlin. Military leaders, while preparing for such a course, hardly expect it. Washington, apparently, is counting on demoralizing effect of first really substantial breakthrough. Belief prevails that *organized* Nazi resistance will end this yr.

Note emphasis on that word *organized*. It is important. As we have frequently pointed out, sporadic resistance—perhaps a form of guerrilla warfare—may continue indefinitely. Civil war in which imported labor would be an important factor, is also a very real possibility.

POSTWAR GERMANY: British industrialists are frankly skeptical of the Vansittart plan (roughly, a parallel of our Morgenthau proposal) which advocates dismemberment of Germany. They fear an impotent western Europe, economically prostrate, would limit British export possibilities; make it difficult for them to compete in other world mkt with America. As Mr MacGowern, representing Independent Labor party, said in Parliament the other day: "It would give the Yanks a world monopoly." The Russian bogey is also present, if not named. Britons do not want (but may well face) a western Europe depend-

ent upon the caprice of the Kremlin. In any case, the whole question must remain in a tentative state awaiting further clarification of the Russian position.

CHINA: The Chinese, who invented fireworks, set off none this wk in celebration of the "Double Ten" (10th day of 10th month.) This occasion marks the 33rd birthday of Chinese republic and is popularly known as "China's 4th of July."

You may anticipate formation of new American bases in Chungking area by or shortly after 1st of yr. This is 1st step in equipping add'l Chinese armies. This will be necessary to prevent Chiang's collapse. While, as stated last wk, Allies may be forced to give Communists some support in Manchuria, in a later phase of war, they cannot now, for obvious reasons, permit downfall of Kuomintang.

FORMOSA: We forecast some wks ago that Japan's island possession would presently make headlines. At mid-wk Japanese radio reported heavy sustained bombing of the island. While unconfirmed in U S, rep't is probably accurate.

Palau islands will prove of utmost importance in re-conquest of Philippines.



SHIFTING SANDS

The inside dope now appears to be that war contracts will be cut more rapidly **AFTER** the German collapse than **was** the original intent. Original 40% cut as of V-E Day stands (and current cancellations are already nibbling against this percentage.) But it's now said there'll be other quick cuts which may reduce war production to less than a third, possibly even a quarter of present levels by late spring, early summer. Effect of this will be to speed reconversion crisis, probably heighten unemployment, confusion. . . Jesse Jones, last wk, queried 500 lessees of gov't-owned war plants, found 90% interested in negotiating for private lease or sale. . . Many merchants urge WPB to retain L-219, which holds inventories to '42 levels. Fear large stores, in big cities, will grab it'd stocks when bars are down, leaving little fellow with bare shelves. . . Don't take winter vacation without assured reservation. Travel will be tighter.



FOR THOSE WHO WILL NOT BE MENTALLY MAROONED

Quote

"HE WHO NEVER QUOTES, IS NEVER QUOTED"

Charles Haddon Spurgeon

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"Polls are reports of what people think they will do."—ARCHIBALD M CROSSLEY, director, Crossley Public Opinion service.

"I shall adore being 60. At 60 one doesn't have to take on responsibilities."—ELEANOR ROOSEVELT, at a press conference some wks ago. (Mrs Roosevelt was 60 Oct 10.)

"Unless the yearnings of a billion Orientals are satisfied, a racial war will surely follow this war."—Col CARLOS P ROMULO, Philippines Resident Commissioner.

"There are only 2 things that will affect the speed of demobilization. One is the military necessity of retaining sufficient troops to quickly and permanently defeat Japan. The other is available shipping."—HENRY L STIMSON, Sec'y of War.

"Brooklyn is no laughing matter."—WAYNE LAWRENCE, exec sec'y, Brooklyn Boosters club, protesting current stage and movie characterizations of his community in a way to make it "the laughing stock of the country."

"The prospects for postwar production are almost fantastic. The thing that appears to be lacking is a practical means or agency for mobilizing and making available the risk capital which is essential to a dynamic economy."—HENRY J KAISER.

"Nothing is more conducive to long-winded and stilted writing than the use of formal, pedantic, or polysyllabic substitutes for a natural word or expression."—Bulletin issued by U S War Office in London, in interests of simplified language.

"GI Joe isn't nearly so interested in having a Pres who is a whiz in handling the pin-striped-panted Diplomats..." (as he is in having) "...the kind of Pres who can help him meet his grocery bill every Monday morning."—Rep CLARE LUCE, Conn.

"MAY WE

Quote

YOU ON THAT?"

"This is tougher than jungle fighting." — Pfc CONSTATINE GUS DYTNYIAK, Detroit, in court seeking divorce.

"Well, suh, the onliest diffence between Burma and Hell is that Hell has a dry climate."—Pvt SAM LINDLEY, Houston, Tex, Negro, commenting on Lido road in Burma.

"Women really rule the land. They control most of our lives and all of our money."—JAS S ADAMS, chairman United Hospital campaign, paying tribute to women's money-raising ability.

"Just consider that it came from the Lord."—Stranger who handed \$100 bill to Mr. and Mrs. A E ROBINSON, Vancouver, Wash, as they stood surveying charred ruins of their little farm home.

"If you feel like that, why don't you vote for Pres Roosevelt?" — FRANCIS BIDDLE, U S Att'y-Gen'l, commenting on DEWEY's sanction of security regulations, bank deposit insurance, price support for agriculture. (Mr BIDDLE addressed N J State Federation of Labor.)

"Dear Tommy, fly on farther, Only poor miners live here. Fly on to Berlin;

There people yelled 'yes' loudest." —IRA WOLFERT, cabling rough translation of German song being sung in bomb shelters of Aachen. Title, *The Yes Men* refers to those who said "yes" to Nazis.

"There's only one way to end the Pacific war and that is to kill all the Japs." — Vice-Adm RANDALL JACOBS, chief, Navy Bureau of Personnel.

"Squandering the people's money, even in wartime, is no proof of patriotism."—JESSE JONES, Sec'y of Commerce.

"Some are good, and some should be at home washing dishes." — PHILLIP GROSS, N Y motorman, commenting on motorwomen.

"Our trouble is that there are too many lines over which we have to get agreement before things can be done."—GEO T CHRISTOPHER, pres, Packard Motor Co, on reconversion.

"Isn't an author as much entitled to surprise as a reader?"—CLARENCE BUDDINGTON KELLAND, declaring that he never knows in advance how one of his fiction characters will react to a situation.

"The coming yr will not only bring us final victory, but also will witness the success of our nat'l revolution."—Gen'l CHIANG KAI-SHEK, on anniversary of founding of Chinese republic.

"I just played the a-cordeen."—Uncle BILLY MATHIS, Duluth, Ga, telling his mthd of placating "Aunt SALLY." (Couple, this wk, celebrated 75th wedding anniversary.) Aunt SALLY's program: "If you git yer feelin's hurt, jest shet yer mouth real tight, and never say a word."

"I just concentrate on the drawing and never think of ether and blood until later. By then it's too late." — MARION GREENWOOD, 1st woman accredited as artist war correspondent with U S Army, describing her fainting preventive when sketching surgical operation.

"I wish to make clear that my support and loyalty belong primarily to the gov't and its present official head, Pres Roosevelt. And in order that no American citizen may be misled, this will continue to be my attitude."—CORDELL HULL, Sec'y of State, answering reports that he would be asked to serve as foreign policy adviser should THOS E DEWEY be elected to presidency.

"Don't get plastered, tight or lit."
—Mayor LA GUARDIA, of N Y City, counseling on behavior for V-E Day.

"She married Pvt Mickey Rooney, so leave off all the baloney."
—MICKEY ROONEY, ex-motion picture star, who recently wed BETTY JANE RASE, "Miss Birmingham of '44."

"Apparently, Aachen's garrison is going to fight to the death. We hope so. All those we kill don't have to be fed and guarded."
—An American Staff Officer, quoted by JACK FRANKISH, United Press correspondent.

"Why not start getting rid of them now?"
—Gov JOHN W BRICKER, Ohio, pointing out number of Federal workers has increased from 572,000 to more than 3,000,000 under Democratic administration.

"She don't live here now."
—Resident of Sapulpa, Okla, home town of Mrs THOS E DEWEY, stating that while town appreciates reflected glory, there's little probability that majority of citizens will vote Republican.

"Thru yrs of experience, I am convinced of the economy of that extra pr."
—Rep ERRETT SCRIVNER, to CHESTER BOWLES, OPA administrator, beginning crusade for ret'n of 2-pants suits. (WPB reports no early change in regulation. Raw wool is available, but not enough worsted.)

"That's a mortality rate lower than the prevailing rate for appendicitis."
—Dr FRANK E ADAIR, N Y Memorial hospital, addressing Dist of Columbia Medical society on operative technique for cancer. (Dr ADAIR stated that of 355 cancerous breast removals at his clinic, death occurred in only one case.)

"We are told that press and public must be kept in ignorance of our honest disagreement. . . . We resent being told by such leaders, or anyone else, that they must do our thinking for us."
—Spokesman of Local 149, United Office and Professional Workers, Salt Lake City, Utah, in revolt against CIO Political Action Committee.

"I want to learn all I can in this world, to get ready for the next."
—ADA M KING, 80, registering for extension course, U of Rochester.

"Our dirty-trick dept is working overtime."
—Adm WM F HALSEY, commander U S 3rd Fleet in Pacific.

"No one nation is resourceful enough to achieve security and a high st'd of living while leaving the rest of the world in a postwar wilderness."
—Dr ISALAH BOWMAN, pres, Johns-Hopkins U.

"I never have been satisfied without having a high school education."
—Mrs EFFIE ELIZABETH OWEN, 61-yr-old grandmother, Carmi, Ill, entering high school this fall as freshman.

"I read everything my rental library gives me. Gypsy says that's no way to become an intellect. But I try, I try."
—JUNE HAVOC, little sister of GYPSY ROSE LEE. (JUNE has been chosen to play title role of Sadie Thompson in motion picture, *Rain*.)

"We heard from grandpa the other day. He's as spry as ever."
—Tail-Gunner PHILLIP TRAPANI, who had to aid in bombing Trapani, Sicily, where his grandfather is prominent resident. (Home, in Detroit, after loss of an arm, he found recent letters indicating the old gentleman still safe and sound.)

"They are taking framed pictures of Hitler and Himmler off the walls and putting the glass in windows."
—Capt JOHN TAPIERS, local rep of military gov't in Monshau, Germany, ans'g query of an irate colonel who wanted to know "Where the Heinies are getting all this glass."

"For 12 long yrs it has been the objective of the New Deal to gain greater and greater control of our daily lives. If they continue they would be in a position to tell us what to eat for breakfast and what kind of pajamas we shall wear at night."
—Gov THOS E DEWEY.

"What you regard as your loss will be your country's gain."
—FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT, asking PETRILLO to lift ban on musical recordings. (Petrillo refused.)

"We still have got up our sleeves several secret weapons which we shall certainly show the enemy."
—Lt-Gen'l Sir RONALD WEEKS, British Imperial staff.

"I didn't know I had so much power."
—THURMAN HILL, Dem nominee for U S senator, addressing group in municipal auditorium, Chanute, Kan, when 500-lb chunk of cornice fell. No one was injured.

"Now, if I had a private campaign car like Dewey, these things wouldn't happen to me."
—NORMAN THOMAS, perennial Socialist nominee for Pres, relating some of his transportation troubles.

"It is pointless to debate how much fu her we should ruin a ruin."
—WALTER LIPPMAN, making assertion that German industry is already demolished, the pertinent point now being the degree and nature of reconstruction.



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MINING THE MAGAZINES

Who's Coming Home—And When?
—*Scholastic*, 10-2-'44.

A few answers to questions you may be asking about the Army's demobilization plans:

Q—Does a man who has served in Europe have a better chance for discharge than the soldier in the Pacific?

A—No. The total discharges will be distributed through all war zones.

Q—Which men are most likely to be released first?

A—Those with small children at home, and who have been overseas and in combat the longest.

Q—Will men who have been picked for discharge be brought home immediately?

A—Probably not. Shipping will be needed to supply the war in the Pacific. All else must wait.

Q—Suppose that the Army decided to release 200,000 men. Will the 200,000 men with the highest combat and dependency ratings be released?

A—No. Soldiers with special qualifications needed in the Pacific war will not be released no matter how high their ratings are.

Q—Will any one branch of the service release more men than the others?

A—The biggest immediate reduction is expected in the ground forces, infantry and artillery. Some of these men, however, will be transferred to the air and service (supply) forces to replace men with higher service ratings.

Q—Will members of the WAC be released in the same way as the rest of the Army?

A—Yes, but WAC will be treated as a separate group.

ADAPTABILITY

All lemons need to change them into usefulness is sugar. The happiest persons are not those who have no disagreeable situations to meet, but those who know how to dilute and sweeten them.—*The Eye-witness*.

AGE—Youth

You can get a pretty fair idea of a person's age by noting his attitude toward the coming of winter.—*Platteville (Wis) Jnl*.

" "

A little historic observation will reveal very clearly that when a nation begins to decay the process starts with the adults, not with the youth.—*DEAN SCHWEICKHARD, Minn Jnl of Ed*.

BOOKS

Each book that you read plays its part in carving your character. You can live in the company of the great of all time and share their thoughts. You need no elaborate introduction to them; they are waiting for you and, indeed, they yearn that you come. For they only live when men and women open their pages and let them speak once more.—*Dr MONROE E DEUTSCH*.

CHURCH—and State

Religion and Government are certainly very different Things, instituted for different Ends, the Design of the one being to promote our temporal Happiness, the Design of the other to procure the Favour of God, and thereby the Salvation of our Souls. While these are kept distinct and apart the Peace and Welfare of Society is preserved, and the Ends of both answered. But by mixing them together, Feuds, Animosities and Persecutions have been raised, which have deluged the World in Blood, and disgraced human Nature.—Excerpt from letter published in *Pennsylvania Jnl*; and the *Weekly Advertiser*, 1768, quoted by *RICHARD J HOOKER*, "John Dickinson on Church and State," *Am Literature*.

COURTESY

Harry von Zell swears he overheard this on a Sunset Blvd bus. Two men got on, sat down. Later,

the bus became crowded, one closed his eyes. "Hey! What's the matter—are you sick?" asked the other. "No," said the first, "but I just hate to see ladies stand."—*HEDDA HOPFER*, syndicated col.

DEBT—Gov't

The end of ancestor worship will come when posterity inherits the debts of our generation.

DELINQUENCY—Juvenile

The imagination, daring and initiative these youngsters show in carrying out their undesirable projects are the very qualities that can make them valuable men and women.—*GLADYS DENNY SHULZ*, "Delinquents—or Just Kids in Trouble?" *Better Homes & Gardens*, 10-'44.

Civillian Casualties

The woman who had hysterics when the salesgirl said, "Take your time, Madam. I'm here to wait on you, you know."

The man who dropped dead when the laundry returned his wash, beautifully ironed and with no pins in it, in three days.

The suburban matron on a visit in the big city who suffered a stroke when the maid not only cleaned her room but scoured the wash bowl as well.—*Parade*.

DIPLOMACY

In the crisis produced by Germany's blockade of the Venezuelan coast and challenge to the Monroe Doctrine, newspapers quoted Adm Dewey as declaring the Kaiser was bound to make trouble in the world. Berlin seethed. The German ambassador lodged a protest. Pres Theo Roosevelt sent for Dewey.

"I said it," declared the old sea dog. "I can't deny it. I won't lie."

"Then," said T R, twinkling, "the only way out is for me to give you a public reprimand."

When Dewey appeared at the appointed hr, in full dress, the President grinned, tapped him on the wrist and said, "Admiral, consider yourself reprimanded."

Official versions of the reprimand satisfied the German gov't.—*CLARK KINNAIRD, American Mercury*, 10-'44.

DRINK—Drinking

A nation cannot work or fight efficiently with a continual hang-over, nor long remain both a free country and a spree country. Drunken nations always have ended up in the international gutter. A nation in its cups is easily jackrolled; look at France: she stuck to the bottled in bond and she is now buried in bondage. Many a country on a spree has sobered up married to its enemy.—WALTER O CROWELL, (Chicago Juvenile Protective Ass'n) *Weekly Call*.

EDUCATION—German

Nazis took down the inscription over the portals of Heidelberg, which read, "To the Human Spirit," and substituted, "To the German Spirit." Should we now write over locked gates—locked against all the philosophy, art and learning of western civilization, as well as against Nazi theory—the inscription: "In the American Spirit"? What American spirit? Jefferson's? —DOROTHY THOMPSON, commenting on provision of Morgenthau plan which would close all German universities "indefinitely."

FACTS OF LIFE

A freckle-faced youngster stood timidly before the librarian's desk. He fidgeted with his cap, swallowed hard and said:

"I want a book on the birds and bees . . . if you know what I mean." —JANE EADS, Associated Press writer.

FLOWERS—Appreciation

A distinguished writer visited the renowned George Bernard Shaw and mentioned surprise that the celebrated literateur had no vase of flowers in his fine home.

"Why, I thought you were exceedingly fond of flowers!"

"I am," returned Shaw abruptly. "I'm very fond of children, too. But I don't cut off their heads and stick them in pots about the house!" —*Pulpit Digest*.

GERMANY—Gov't

Only political partition of Germany into separate states based upon historical and economic considerations, can permanently break the hold which the Gen'l Staff has

on the German people.—SUMNER WELLES, "What to do With the Germans," *Am Legion Mag*, 10-'44.

HOLLYWOOD—Defined

Hollywood is a place where people spend money they haven't earned yet, to buy things they don't need, to impress people they don't like.—ERSKINE JOHNSON.

HUMANITY

Human beings are different, but they are identical in their humanity. Their identical humanity is the foundation of any desirable world civilization.—ROB'T M HUTCHINS, in *Fortune*.

LABOR—Shortage

WANTED: Young man, not too intelligent, to learn printing business.

We didn't get any response to our query for an intelligent young man, so we'll be satisfied with one not too intelligent.—*New Richmond (Wis) News*.

What do you mean, "Just now"?

The average woman is just now crazy over hats. If she hasn't got a soft felt with a rakish crown and a thievish-looking brim, she is crazy to get one.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean*, Oct, 1874—70 yrs ago this month.

LANGUAGE—English

There were 20 refugees from Statigliano in the hut—children, women, old men. One old man was 87. The women told me he had lived in America and could talk English. They said to the old man: "Talk to him in English. He is an American." It took the old man a long while to understand. Finally, he said, "Newcastle, Pennsylvania, Boston, Chicago, Denver City." I talked to him, but he kept repeating those few words. The women said to each other, "The old man talks good English."—Geo BMDLE, *Artist at War* (Duell, Sloane & Pearce)

LANGUAGE—Power of

It sometimes happens that words last longer than steel and concrete.—*Christian Advocate*.



**CONFIDENTIALLY
THRU A
MEGAPHONE**

War Dep't is realistically facing occupation problem of men' in armed forces in European theater after defeat of Germany. They see futility of stressing close-order drill, etc for occupation troops or men waiting to be shipped home. Thus new program is being planned with emphasis on education, recreation, athletics. Individual will have much latitude and leisure, can pretty well shape his own course.

WPB and Nat'l Housing Agency have authorized immediate priorities to discharged World War II vets for bldg or remodeling homes . . . More than half of London's children (est: 70,000) are truants from school. Authorities granted some leniency under robot-bomb threat; are now about to take steps.

Maybe you should thank politics for stretching your blue points this fall. OPA wanted continued rationing of vegetables, fearing late winter shortage. Army, too, shied at lifting lid. But insiders say Dem Nat'l committee insistence led to direct White House order.

Bright Side report: Swiss watches should be plentiful by Christmas. New shipments are already arriving in Am marts. . . Ten million zippers, declared surplus by Army Quartermaster depot, will soon be available for civilians.

Probably no industry has better efficiency record than aviation. Big bomber that used to require 200,000 man-hrs in production is now turned out with 13,000 man-hrs. But this very efficiency may give industry terrific reconversion headache. Nearly a fourth of total war expenditures go for aviation. With peace, civilian mkt can employ only fraction of present capacity.



ARMY: A new "mechanical brain" gunsight directs fighter pilot's machinegun fire electrically after information regarding enemy plane is fed to it by a dialing system. It is now in combat use. (Eastman Kodak Co)

HOUSING: A revolutionary idea for future home construction is the suggestion of a bedroom with an air-conditioned, soundproof glass compartment for the baby. (Retailing)

MEDICINE: New addition to soldier's kit is spirally-wound pkg containing ampoule of iodine, with swab. Pkg can be opened with one hand, without danger of broken glass (Celanese Celluloid Corp'n)

SCIENCE: 2,000,000-volt mobile X-ray unit has been developed which will take picture thru 1 ft thickness of steel. Machine weighs 5,000 lbs; doubles voltage previously available. (Gen'l Electric Co)

TRANSPORTATION: Pullman announces new-type "day-nite" coach, to give many comforts, conveniences of 1st class travel. Seats farther apart, with extra degree of recline. At night, passenger obtains full-length sleeping surface by pulling down back of seat to form leg rest. Curtains separate each pr of seats. Spot-type lights for reading. Six private dressing rooms.

Pa Ry, Trenton to Phillipsburg, has installed electronic train telephone. Signalmen, dispatchers may speak to persons on moving train; train crews communicate with other trains, and with head and rear of own train. . . FCC has authorized Westinghouse to experiment with "walkie-talkie" in ry service. Train crews will soon put equipment to test.

MARRIED LIFE

There is some spiritual satisfaction in martyrdom and no good man is wholly miserable while making his wife happy.—ROB'T QUILLEN, syndicated col.

POSTWAR—Mkts

Our postwar mkts will be worldwide. Our men in the armed services, stationed in 68 countries, are introducing American products to an extent never known before.—LEO H RICH, industrial designer.

PRICE—Control

Price controls by themselves will not assure the farmer of post-war security. This will take co-operative planning by industry, labor, agriculture and government. —CHESTER BOWLES, OPA Administrator, in a Denver address where he commented that the average farmer looks to the future with foreboding.

RACES—Japanese

On day at Camp McCoy, Wisc, where Japanese prisoners are held, a Japanese spokesman presented a long list of complaints to an Am officer. The officer finally lost patience.

"The trouble with you people," he said, "is that you want the world, with a fence around it."

The Jap thought that one over for a moment and then with perfect seriousness rep'd "No fence." ROB'T DEVORE, "Our 'Pampered' War Prisoners," Collier's, 10-14-'44.

RECONVERSION

One of the difficulties in the way of reconversion is that so few persons, comparatively speaking have any use for plow shares.—Boston Globe.

REFORM—at Home

Too many people get excited over plans for changing the world, but won't move a finger to improve conditions in their own home towns.—ERIC A JOHNSTON (pres U S Chamber of Commerce) "You Are the Center of the World," Christian Herald, 10-'44.

SABBATH—Observance

A man went to mkt with a string of 7 coins. Seeing a beggar, he gave the poor man 6 of the coins, kept

one for himself. The beggar, instead of being thankful, followed the good man and stole the 7th coin as well. What an abominable wretch! Yes, and would you, to whom God has given 6 days, steal the 7th also?—The Presbyterian.

"SEE NO EVIL"

At a reception one evening, Lexicographer Samuel Johnson was discussing his dictionary with several guests.

"I have seen your dictionary," reprimanded one prim old lady, "and I found many words I thought were improper."

"If you found them, madam," rep'd Johnson, "I guess you must have been looking for them."—E E EDGAR, "Famous Fables."



In view of the effect of the war and the subsequent peace on the lives of women, I think it highly important that women be included in the making of the peace plans. They would be chosen for their knowledge of and experience in national and international affairs and should be expected to take an active part in the negotiations and not merely be there to "represent women."—Miss ESSIE L MAGUIRE, exec sec'y Young Women's Christian Ass'n, Chicago, contributing to a forum conducted by Chicago Sun.

NOTE: There is a current report that Madame CHIANG KAI-SHEK hopes to represent China at coming peace conference.

TRUTH

S Parkes Cadman had been telling his small granddaughter a bedtime story that held her breathless attention. At the end of the tale, when she had recovered her poise, she demanded, "Grandfather, was that a true story, or were you just preaching?"—Watchman-Examiner.

"... waiting for the daytime void to end."

From the soldier's earliest bivouac there have been—camp followers. They are an institution as old as war itself. But World War II, with its concentrated encampments, its long periods of training, has spotlighted a new type of camp follower—the army wives. Of this group BARBARA KLAU was more fortunate than the gen'l run. She had "the book" to take her time. Written in rented rooms and tourist cabins, Camp Follower (Random \$2) is a sprightly acc't of this intriguing group. In this excerpt she writes understandingly of the camp follower's No 1 problem—the empty hrs between reveille and retreat.

I went to a few more wives' events with Pat, who seemed to go doggedly to all of them. Then, one day, Miss Stoakes called me into her office.

"I hear you wrote that nice little piece for the paper the other day," she said, referring to some publicity I had done for Travelers Aid.

"I thought it was so clever," she said. "I want to ask your advice on a short-story writing class. Don't you think that would be fun?"

I felt an urge to question the word "fun" in relation to all the wives' activities. Was providing fun for Army wives what people donated money to the USO for? Were the girls having fun; did they want fun? But Miss Stoakes was smiling at me expectantly.

"Has there been much demand for a short-story writing class?" I asked.

"No, no one's asked for it, but I'm sure lots of the girls would come."

I wanted to shout that we weren't potential juvenile delinquents, that we were women intimately engaged in a war. I wanted to ask her why the club didn't offer us war work to do, why we didn't do more for lonely girls in the hospitals, why some of the energy spent entertaining us couldn't be turned toward organizing us for something useful.

"Well, think it over, Bobby," Miss Stoakes said. "We haven't got anything on the schedule for Monday

morning and we've got to think of something." I said I would, and excused myself.

In a few minutes Pat came from a meeting and sat down beside me. "Look, Pat," I said, "Do you like all these little affairs at the club?"

"I like the girls," Pat said.

"Sure," I persisted, "but do you like the events?"

"I hadn't thought much about it," she said slowly, and considered for a moment. "Have you ever seen my room? It has four walls, and one window and striped yellow paper." She laughed self-consciously.

"I sat in there so much at first that the damn wallpaper started getting on my nerves. So now I spend my time up here instead."

Suddenly she grinned.

"I wouldn't say that it was very invigorating," she said. "But it takes up a lot of time. Look at that." She pointed to a clock on the wall. "It's four o'clock. That makes two hrs since I've looked at my watch. Come on, honey," she said. "Stop brooding. Let's go for a walk."

Silently I agreed, and we got up and walked across the floor, past the girls writing letters, past a pair playing checkers, past four girls sipping cokes, past the girls at the reception desk. We walked out of the club and down the hill, away from the dozens and dozens of wives waiting patiently for the daytime void to end.

to come.—RAYMOND B FOSDICK, *Scientific Monthly*.

WOMEN—Character

The character of women is written in invisible ink which does not show up until it is warmed near a fire.—Maj HARRY HOBBS, quoted in *Hollywood Reporter*.

WAR—Loss

No human precaution can protect a nation from the sacrifices which war levies upon future talent—the undiscovered scientists, the gifted minds, the intellectual and spiritual leaders upon whom each generation must build the hope and promise of the generation



GEMS FROM

Yesteryear

The Words of Wendell Willkie

Tho many opposed the ideas of WENDELL WILLKIE, his ideals—and his basic Americanism—are universally accepted.

Liberalism is not the property of any one political party nor the product of any one political platform. It is not a fixed program of action nor a vote on this or that particular measure. *Liberalism is an attitude of mind.*

" "

From now on, our purpose should be not to augment the powers of the State, but to increase the opportunities offered to the individual. We are a hard-headed, practical race, and we have chosen the enterprise system as our way of life, not for sentimental reasons, but because it has created more benefits for more people in less time than any other.

" "

Power goes to men's heads. When you see the bust of Napoleon on the desk of a business man, you'd better get out quick and sell him short. The same goes for gov't officials.

" "

The world has a habit of emerging from soul-shattering conflicts with its soul still unshattered.

" "

The great days of America are by no means done. We have only touched the border of our achievement. If I did not believe this I would not believe in America. Because that faith is America.

" "

Our way of living together in America is a strong but delicate fabric. . . Let us not tear it asunder. For no man knows, once it is destroyed, where or when man will find its protective warmth again.

An Army chaplain who had just been given 3 immunization injections (or "shots") was resting aboard a troop train. A sympathetic colored soldier asked, "What's mattah, Chaplain, you got a misery?"

The chaplain replied that he had just had 3 shots that morning and was a bit under the weather. The soldier clucked sympathetically.

"Yas, sah," he commiserated, "3 shots o' that stuff they sells aroun' heah sho' knock anybody out!"—*Tracks*, hm, C&O Ry.

" "

Two little sardines were swimming aimlessly in San Diego bay. One suggested, "Let's go up to San Francisco for the wk-end."

"Oh, no," objected his companion. "It's much too long a swim."

"We could go by train," ventured the 1st sardine.

"What! And be jammed in like a couple of soldiers!"



Wisecracks OF THE WEEK

And have you heard of the fox who got out of harm's way by digging a manhole? — *Sen SOAPER*.

" "

Soap operas are improving, but most are still only fair to maudlin.—*Milwaukee Jnl.*

" "

If the American navy keeps it up, Davy Jones will soon have slant eyes and buck teeth.—*TABARIN*.

" "

Sixteen species of wood will not float in water — making them ideal for the Japanese navy, which seems to have the same complaint.—*The Wood Worker*.

GOOD STORIES YOU CAN USE

I LAUGHED AT THIS ONE

KAY KYSER
Band Leader

A drunk, seated in a hotel lobby, was alternately mumbling to himself and laughing. Then he would mumble again and say, "Phooey!"

A curious guest finally approached the man and asked, "Why all the mumbling and laughing, my friend?"

The drunk explained, "I'm telling myself funny stories."

"I see," said the other. "But why do you say 'Phooey' every once in awhile?"

"Oh," replied the drunk, "that's when I tell myself a joke I've heard before!"

I don't know why but that joke always rolls them in the the aisles.

An unreliable source in Naziland reports that Hitler, beaten and crushed in spirit, called a conference of his top men and announced his intention of being smuggled thru Argentina into the U S.

"Are you mad?" exploded Goering. "In the U S, your life won't be worth a nickel!"

"I know," said Hitler, dejectedly, "but before I die I want to do one thing more for the Fatherland."

"But what," he was asked, "can you do for the Fatherland in the U S?"

"I'll go to the newsreel," said Hitler, "and boo the Roosevelts."—*WALTER WINCHELL*.

A passenger boarding a C&EI train out of Evansville, found another traveler occupying the parlor-car seat for which he held a ticket. He tapped the trespasser on the shoulder, exhibiting his ticket. As the man arose, the newcomer apologized for ousting him, saying, "There's quite a mix-up in transportation these days."

"Yes," grinned the ousted passenger, displaying a ticket for the same seat, "there certainly is. I'm Chas O'Neal, president of the railroad—but the customer must be right." And he disappeared into the smoker.—*SIDNEY HARRIS, Chicago Daily News*.

" "

"How do you tell the ganders from the geese?" a farmer was asked.

"Well," he confided, "we don't worry much about it—just turn 'em all out together and let them figure it out for themselves."

